

Case Study
Essex Bulk Services
accelerate to deliver
net zero with DEKRA
sustainability services





By **optimising operations**
and **reducing emissions**,
EBS can achieve an estimated
£180,000 cost savings

Background

Essex Bulk Services (EBS) is a renowned fleet operator specialising in the transportation of bulk materials. They have built a solid reputation for reliability, efficiency, and a strong commitment to sustainability. As part of this ongoing commitment, EBS worked alongside FORS Affinity Partner, DEKRA to align with the latest sustainability standards and improve their overall sustainability performance.

EBS boasts an exceptional delivery efficiency, achieving a remarkable on-time delivery rate of 99.6%. Additionally, EBS holds the FORS Gold accreditation, a testament to their dedication to superior fleet operations, safety, and environmental standards.

This year, the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS) has released Version 7 (V7), introducing new sustainability requirements for operators to decarbonise their fleets, integrate ESG initiatives, and demonstrate a commitment to achieving net-zero operations.

The Opportunity

The introduction of FORS Version 7 has established a new benchmark for sustainability in the fleet operations sector, emphasising decarbonisation, ESG integration, and net-zero commitments. With the impending requirement for all freight operators to achieve gold standard FORS accreditation by 2024, the industry is undergoing a rapid transformation.

Developing a decarbonisation strategy is paramount for companies like EBS to cost-effectively transition in this rapidly evolving landscape. This first involved understanding the client's carbon footprint focusing on Scope 1 emissions which make up the majority of their emissions. From the full view of their fleet, and the trajectory of change, EBS could identify key areas for reduction.

Beyond environmental benefits, a well-executed decarbonisation strategy offers significant financial advantages. By optimising operations and reducing emissions, EBS can achieve an estimated £180,000 cost savings. Additionally, compliance with stringent regulations can help avoid costly fines, enhance the company's reputation as a sustainability leader, and increase its chances of winning new business.

This presents a compelling opportunity for EBS to differentiate itself in the market, strengthen its brand, and drive long-term growth while contributing to a more sustainable future.



Future-proof the business by being ahead of evolving regulatory requirements, customer and market demands for ESG data

The Solution

After DEKRA's Sustainability Readiness Assessment was completed, EBS had a view of its sustainability performance to the latest standards as well as the opportunities to close the gaps. DEKRA Sustainability services then provided advisory and decarbonisation services in several key areas:

- Double Materiality Assessment**
 Engaging internal and external stakeholders to identify and prioritise material sustainability issues.
- Scope 1, 2, & 3 Assessment**
 Conducting a full carbon baseline assessment to understand and manage carbon emissions across all scopes, including a scope 3 screening across all 15 sub-categories. EBS can now set clear KPIs and track their carbon reduction progress year on year.
- Decarbonisation Plan**
 Developing an operations and fleet decarbonisation strategy guided by leading global standards, including the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) and the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. The decarbonisation plan enables EBS to get clear oversight on how to achieve Net Zero by 2050 in a way that is most feasible for their business.
- Carbon Reduction Plan**
 Formulating a carbon reduction plan in compliance with Public Procurement Notice (PPN) 06/21. The plan will help EBS achieve their commitment to Net Zero by 2050.
- Sustainability Support**
 Support implementing environmental management systems (ISO:14001) and other sustainability practices.

Results and Benefits

The collaboration between DEKRA and Essex Bulk Services yielded impressive results. By following our expert guidance, EBS was able to:

- Develop a sustainability strategy aligned with stakeholder expectations and industry best practices.
- Quantify carbon emissions through detailed Scope 1, 2, and 3 assessments, providing a clear baseline for reduction efforts.
- Create a decarbonisation plan guided by global standards, such as SBTi and GHG Protocol, and tailored to EBS's specific needs.
- Achieve significant cost savings by optimising operations and identifying efficiency improvements.
- Enhance reputation and brand image positioned as a sustainability leader in their sector.
- Future-proof the business by being ahead of evolving regulatory requirements, customer and market demands for ESG data.



The company's **commitment to net zero by 2050**, coupled with its **sector-specific carbon reduction plan**, showcases its **leadership in the industry**

By aligning with global standards such as SBTI, GLEC Framework, and ISO Net Zero Guidelines, EBS has established a strong foundation for long-term sustainability. The company's commitment to net zero by 2050, coupled with its sector-specific carbon reduction plan, showcases its leadership in the industry.

DEKRA sustainability experts were available throughout the process to provide guidance on how best to respond to ESG-related queries or opportunities for the organisation. They provided tools and templates for EBS to continue the reporting process year after year ensuring they do not become dependent on consultants or tools but are empowered to drive their own initiatives independently.

These achievements have not only contributed to environmental benefits but also generated tangible financial savings, enabling EBS to invest in future growth, trucks and technologies and passing on that sustainable return on investment to their customers and community.

*"...we have not only achieved significant milestones in our sustainability journey but have also positioned ourselves as a responsible and **forward-thinking** company in the eyes of our **stakeholders**. [...]
We highly recommend DEKRA to any organisation seeking to enhance their sustainability efforts and make a **meaningful impact on the environment**."*

Craig Childs
Director- EBS

DEKRA Sustainability Services Contact

At DEKRA, our Sustainability Services are designed to guide and support businesses in their journey towards a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future. Our comprehensive suite of services focuses on delivering tangible sustainability improvements, helping organisations to effectively manage their environmental impact, enhance their corporate social responsibility, and ensure compliance with global sustainability standards. Whether it's through carbon footprint analysis, sustainability reporting, or developing and implementing bespoke sustainability strategies, our expert team is committed to facilitating measurable and meaningful progress. We leverage our global expertise and local insights to deliver solutions that not only meet the immediate needs of our clients but also pave the way for long-term sustainable success.

We are a service unit of DEKRA SE, a global leader in safety since 1925 with over 49,000 employees in 60 countries and five continents. As a part of the world's leading expert organisation DEKRA, we are the global partner for a safe world. We have offices throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.

For more information visit
www.dekra-uk.co.uk

Contact